Nova Scotia Provincial Library
Nova Scotia Regional Libraries
Annual Report
2001/2002

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Education

Access the World

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

Nova Scotia Regional Libraries

Annual Report

2001-2002

From the Minister

I am pleased to present the 2001–02 Annual Report of the Nova Scotia Provincial and Regional Public Libraries.

Nova Scotia's public libraries have made great advances in the past few decades. There is still a hushed reverence in these institutions that record our trek through time. The books still sit quietly on the shelves, waiting for a curious reader to discover the information they contain.

But today's libraries are taking advantage of technology to offer information in many more ways. They now offer public Internet access and online research tools. The virtual library expands access beyond physical buildings. The library is now open "twenty-four/seven" and is poised to become a key partner in e-government.

Even with all that technology can do for us, people are still the key to vibrant libraries in our communities. It's people who keep our libraries responsive to the needs of Nova Scotians. It's people who develop partnerships with organizations like the Alzheimer Society to make specific information available to those who need it. It's people who develop programs like Read to Me! with hospitals and governments to provide books and reading information to newborns and their parents.

The staff and trustees of Nova Scotia's regional public libraries are the people who are getting these jobs done. Through their initiative and creativity, they're expanding and improving services and providing the best services possible to all Nova Scotians.

Jane Purves
Minister of Education

103-02738/

From the Director

Nova Scotia's public libraries have been steadily moving ahead with technology for several years, providing public Internet access, subscribing to on-line full-text reference sources, developing digital collections, and automating their daily operations. This all led to the launch of the Virtual Public Library in January 2002. Now library users can use the Internet to search for materials, make requests, get a library card, renew materials, and access on-line magazines and databases. Nova Scotians with a public library card now have access to more than 1,300 full-text magazines and other reference resources on line.

Along with this, circulation, visits to the library, in-house use of materials, and program attendance have all increased for the first time in several years. Participation in the Summer Reading Program reached an all-time high of just under 12,000 children. There are 498 public access computers available in public libraries—an average of one computer for every 1,800 Nova Scotians. Use of these computers increased by 11 per cent this year.

Some new initiatives include the Alzheimer Society Partnership, Read to Me!, and Nova Scotia's first Public Library Week. Two of the regional libraries have begun work on a three-year Smart Libraries project as part of Industry Canada's Smart Communities initiative.

Funding for public library services continues to be a big concern. The government's goal of achieving a balanced budget again had an impact on public library services. Further negative impact is expected in 2002–03 as a result of declining population figures, particularly in the more rural areas of the province.

I would like to thank the staff of the Provincial Library and the regional public libraries who have achieved all these things with very little increase in funding. Thank you, also, to Susan Clark, Senior Executive Director, Higher Education and Adult Learning, for her continued support throughout the year.

In the coming year we look forward to entering negotiations to migrate to a new integrated library system, improving the visibility of and promoting the value of public libraries, and assisting the regional public libraries in developing digital collections.

Elizabeth Armstrong
Director, Nova Scotia Provincial Library

Libraries: Where the Future Begins

Public Library Week 2001

"Libraries: Where the future begins" was the theme of the first annual Public Library Week in Nova Scotia, held in October 2001. Public Library Week was co-sponsored by the Nova Scotia Library Association, Prince Edward Island Provincial Library Service, Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia, and the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. Promotion of the Week included a series of interviews on ATV/ASN's Breakfast Television program. Public Library Week provides an opportunity to celebrate public libraries and to highlight the services they offer.

Alzheimer Society Partnership

The Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Regional Libraries initiated a partnership during 2001–02 to provide greater access to resources for those dealing with Alzheimer disease and other dementias in communities around the province. The society placed a core set of 16 books in each of the nine regional libraries, as well as a resource binder of brochures and fact sheets. The network of 76 library branches, mobile libraries, and Books by Mail services in some regions allows the society to deliver their information to people in every part of the province. The provision of consumer health information is a top priority for regional libraries, and the partnership with the Alzheimer Society of Nova Scotia, and the resulting promotion of the partnership by the society, reinforces their credibility in this area.

Société Alzheimer Society
NOVA SCOTIA

Virtual Public Library Services

On-line delivery of a variety of services became a reality for all regional libraries during 2001–02. Since the development of the Internet, regional libraries have recognised its possibilities for innovative service delivery. Halifax Regional Library introduced a number of on-line services several years ago. Now all regional libraries in Nova Scotia offer remote access to a number of services, including searching the library catalogue, placing a hold on material, renewing material already on loan, applying for a library card, asking a reference question, and viewing hundreds of full-text magazine titles. Regional libraries have taken a huge step in providing equitable access to library services in communities around the province.

NCOMPASS

Read to Me!

Nova Scotia regional libraries were partners in the Read to Me! Nova Scotia Family Literacy Program, which was launched in January 2002. Under this program, each baby born at the IWK Health Centre, the Yarmouth Regional Hospital, and the Cape Breton Regional Hospital (and soon hospitals in the rest of the province) will receive a bag containing board books, information on the importance of reading aloud to infants and young children, and a library card. Library cards are the first step toward a lifetime of reading.

Summer Reading Program 2001

A record 12,000 children registered with the 2001 Summer Reading Program in libraries around the province. "Don't bug me... I'm reading!/Ne m'embête pas...je lis!" proved to be a popular theme, with increased registrations in every region. A variety of programs and events were planned around the theme in each region, including a Books at the Beach outreach program at Cumberland Regional Library and Who Wants to Be a McMillionaire, a quiz game held at Western Counties Regional Library. The program plays an important role in promoting and supporting reading during the summer. The establishment of good reading habits at an early age is an important part of the public library's contribution to a literate society.

News in the Regions

Annapolis Valley

Annapolis Valley Regional Library had a very exciting year. Through a small budgeted amount and partnerships with the Community Access Program, Human Resource Development Canada, LibraryNet, the Nova Scotia Community College Youth Internship program, and summer youth initiatives, public programs were offered throughout the year. A record 2,521 programs for children and adults were offered throughout the region, as well as 1,357 computer-related training/information sessions.

Branch libraries were continuously having their services enhanced. Internet connectivity was upgraded at all locations, which delighted both staff and the public. This included the mobile branches as they were able to use the new CDPD service available in the area. Many locations received new equipment through the Community Access Program as well as through the region's regular replacement program.

The Smart Libraries Project, part of Nova Scotia's Smart Communities Demonstration Project, was a focus for some staff for the year. The project is being developed in partnership with Western Counties Regional Library and will be launched early in the next year. Focus groups of library users met to discuss what they would like to see in a virtual library site, as well as to provide input into the implementation of the new web-based catalogue. The feedback from these sessions was invaluable.

Annapolis Valley's Summer Reading Program included these remarkable insect displays that helped carry out the theme Don't bug me... I'm reading!

Cape Breton

A fire set by vandals closed the Florence Library in late July. By the end of the operating year a new location has not yet been secured, though it was hoped to have the branch operational again by the summer. Despite this loss, circulation of materials in the region's branches showed a 4.2 per cent increase over the previous year. Nine of 15 CBRL branches were using the automated circulation system by year-end.

Library Card Month in March saw 1,599 registrations for membership taken out by new members.

A tender was awarded to Perry Rand Ltd. to supply the region with a new bookmobile for Cape Breton County to replace the 10-year-old vehicle presently in operation.

In October CBRL, in partnership with the University College of Cape Breton Library, played host to the annual conference of the Nova Scotia Library Association.

A grant from Industry Canada permitted the development of an interactive on-line database of CBRL's collection of 3,700 play scripts.

For the second year in a row, CBRL received an Industry Canada LibraryNet award for innovation in the use of the Internet in libraries. This time the award was for the Gaelic Collection database, developed with the UCCB Library, which also received an award for this project.

Cape Breton Regional Library adopted this logo, which is a replica of the official seal of Cape Breton when it was a separate British colony in the time of King George III.

Colchester–East Hants

During 2001–02 both technology and library hours were increased at the Elmsdale branch. Open hours were increased from 23 to 28. The library now has a computer lab and additional public access computers. An active CAP partnership has enabled the library to offer a variety of computer training courses, which often have waiting lists.

The Stewiacke branch is also an active CAP site, and additional public access technology and training sessions were added this year.

The Gates Learning Centre for Electronic Information continued to be well used. Stair glides have been installed to improve access to the centre for people with physical disabilities. The centre was booked for training sessions by a variety of groups, including the Medical Society of Nova Scotia and the Central Nova Women's Resource Centre.

The Truro branch offered service on Sundays for the first time, an innovation that has proven popular. The board continues to look for a solution to the need for a larger facility in Truro. The library worked with the town of Truro on a feasibility study to see if the old Normal College could be converted into a library. The study reported that this heritage property would not be suitable.

The Colchester–East Hants Regional Library Foundation was established to raise funds for future library development. An application for charitable status has been filed.

CEHRL partnered with other non-profit organizations in the Truro area to plan events for Leave a Legacy Week, part of a public awareness campaign to encourage planned giving.

Anna Dorrington of the Colchester–East Hants Library's Technical Services Department

Cumberland

Terry Punch, historian and genealogist, shown here with Chief Librarian Frances Newman, was one of many speakers to visit Cumberland Regional Library this year.

Computers and technology continued to be the main focus for the year. Partnerships with local CAP committees enabled the library to benefit from funding to refresh and enhance existing computer services. Twenty-six free public access computers with an Internet connection are available in the seven CURL branches. Nearly 400 computer training sessions were offered throughout the region thanks to a Labour Market Development Agreement (LMDA) grant. The classes were especially popular with seniors and those re-entering the workforce.

A new website was created to better promote library services and programs, and automated acquisitions and collection exchange were implemented to streamline procedures and improve efficiency.

Nearly one-third of Cumberland County residents are members of the library, and the new Books by Mail service continues to grow as a replacement for the Bookmobile.

During Public Library Week celebrations in October, a variety of programs were offered. Visitors to the library could learn how to trace their roots with genealogist Terry Punch, make a Halloween craft, participate in a book discussion group, or hear chilling Maritime ghost stories with Daryl Walsh.

During March Break, Cumberland Regional Library, along with other northern regional libraries, participated in a Spring Reading Festival with LMDA funding. Budge Wilson, Deirdre Kessler, and Herb Curtis entertained audiences of all ages with readings from their books.

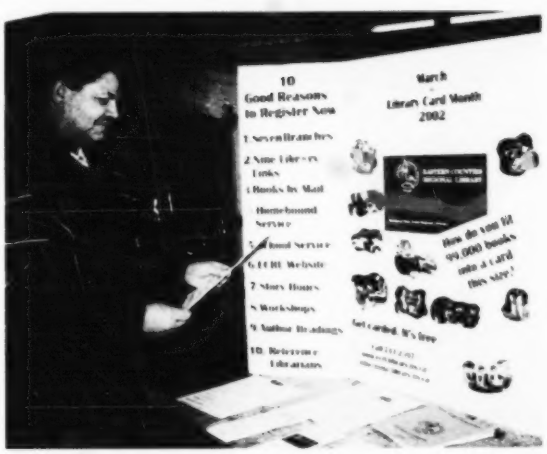
The summer reading club, Don't Bug Me, I'm Reading!, was a huge success with over 400 children between the ages of 3 and 12 involved in the program.

Eastern Counties

Promoting the library, making people aware of what ECRL offers, encouraging independence in the use of library catalogues and databases, as well as stimulating a love of reading and the fun of reading were this year's goals. Among the activities offered were an author tour, sponsored by the Canada Council, which took place in the spring of 2001, and the Spring Reading Festival, sponsored by LMDA, which was organized in conjunction with three other regional libraries and was held in March 2002. ECRL held its first Library Card Month in March.

Many of these activities were possible thanks to numerous government grants that supplemented ECRL's budgets this year. With the additional revenues, branch libraries obtained new computers and scanners and were able to provide additional staff hours for public access. The library was able to hire a computer technician for the year (University Co-op and Library Net grants). As well, with employees hired through HRDC and a Canadian Rural Pilot Initiative grant, the library became an active presence in numerous small communities. One-on-one and group training sessions were offered in CAP sites, schools, and other community sites to introduce people to distance library services. Reading programs for everyone from preschoolers to seniors were offered in numerous communities. Special programs were designed and offered to the First Nations and Black communities of Chapel Island, Waycobah, and Lincolnville.

The library is working at overcoming some of the barriers created by the large distances within the region; it has moved out of the library into the communities to make people aware that even in the smallest and most remote community, it is still possible to link with library services.



Displays like this influenced people to sign up for library cards during Eastern Counties' Library Card Month in March.

Halifax

From left, Harrison Regan; his father, MP Geoff Regan; Jane Purves, Minister of Education; and Mayor Peter Kelly collaborated to cut the ribbons at the opening of the Tantallon Public Library.

Halifax Regional Library opened two new branches in 2001. The Keshen Goodman Public Library, located in Clayton Park, replaced the Thomas Raddall Public Library and offers greatly increased access to technology, including a computer lab and a family computing area. HRL received the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Architecture for the Keshen Goodman Library. Two popular features of this new facility are the Self Pick-up Holds service, where library users can pick up materials that they have reserved, and the Self-Check system, which allows library users to check out their own materials. These innovations will be expanded to other branches in the future.

The Tantallon Public Library opened in the fall of 2001 and provides library service to one of the fastest-growing areas in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Over 1,400 new library cards were issued from this busy branch in the first two months. Library programs and computer training workshops have also been very popular.

CAP sites were opened in Keshen Goodman, Bedford, Tantallon, and J. D. Shatford branch libraries. HRL is an active partner in the Halifax CAP Association, a relationship that has resulted in numerous benefits for all HRL branch libraries, including computer hardware and software and training opportunities.

HRL's youth site, Kids@ HRL, was launched in October 2001. This kid-friendly interactive site features an "Ask A Librarian" service where kids e-mail reference questions to librarians and receive a direct response; "What Do I Read Next," a service that provides personalized lists of recommended titles and live on-line chat; an on-line kids book club; on-line homework help sessions; links to other sites; a section just for parents and teachers; and much more.

A new mobile library to serve Western HRM was launched in November 2001. The 32-foot (10-metre) bus, which replaced the old 1986 unit, holds a collection of approximately 5,000 items and has resulted in improved service to rural areas.

During the year, HRL received grants totalling over $300,000. This funding has enabled the library to develop and deliver programming in the areas of infant, preschool, and adult

Halifax continued next page

Pictou-Antigonish

RCMP Constable John Kennedy, Minister of Education Jane Purves, and Premier John Hamm attended the launch of the Virtual Library.

The new River John Library and Innovation Centre was officially opened on June 16, 2001. The new facility has exceeded expectations, drawing services out to the River John area as well as seeing increased book circulation. The board extends a special thank-you to the Friends of the River John Library, who managed the construction and the ongoing operation.

The Virtual Library, <www.parl.ns.ca>, was launched on January 17, 2002. The Virtual Library opens a new era in library service, allowing access to the library catalogue, services, and digital content, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This has built a solid foundation for future development.

Outreach is building solid library service foundations to Antigonish communities. The Virtual Library, combined with promotion and public training by staff, has resulted in an increased circulation through Books by Mail. The Monastery Rural Access Site is developing a core of regular users, showing that this type of arrangement can work well in rural areas.

Attendance at public programming increased over last year. Sessions highlighting authors have been well received and illustrate the value of promoting reading and family literacy to the community. Read by the Sea had a successful second year, drawing over 300 people to River John. The Spring Reading Festival, during March Break week, was another successful event featuring Nova Scotian authors.

Public use of computers and the Internet increased again this year, showing the need for continued access to technology. Working in partnership with HRDC, the Nova Scotia Office of Economic Development, and Industry Canada, funding was obtained for coordination and public training.

The board struggled with increasing costs and little extra provincial revenue this fiscal year. In order to continue the development of new and innovative services, as well as to ensure a high standard of library service, the board has established strategic partnerships with other community agencies and groups.

Halifax continued from previous page

literacy, IT workshops, youth reading support, and ESL workshops. Specific initiatives such as CAP, Summer Reading Program, Baby's First Books, and Share the Stories, were also made possible by government and corporate grants from Industry Canada and the Nova Scotia Technology and Science Secretariat, Human Resources and Development Canada, Imperial Oil, the IWK Health Centre External Grants Program, and Coca-Cola.

HRL, through grants from the External Grants Program of the IWK Health Centre Foundation and HRDC, is providing Baby's First Books infant literacy programs in library branches around the region. The programs are designed to provide early language and literacy experiences to children from birth to age two. The Baby's First Books programs are also being promoted at the IWK Health Centre as part of the information given to new parents with the Read to Me Program.

South Shore

Plans for the expansion of the Lunenburg Library and the move of the Liverpool Library occupied the board and staff members for much of 2001–02. These facilities will offer improved collections and more Internet access. The success of these two projects has clearly pointed out the need for an improved library in Bridgewater.

Mobile service continues to be popular: "We couldn't live without our Bookmobile" is the common attitude among users of this service.

With funding from the Department of Heritage and Industry Canada, students were hired to help with the Summer Reading Program and to offer computer training to the public.

Volunteers are the backbone of SSRL's Home Library Service and the annual book sale, as well as being essential to the success of deposit programs. One volunteer has repaired over 200 talking books, a significant help in keeping that collection active. Donations of time, books, and money to buy books continue to grow.

Past Board Chair Alan Wilson continued in his role as President of the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia (LBANS) and as a public library advocate at the local, regional, and provincial levels. SSRL hosted the 2001 LBANS Conference at White Point Beach Lodge.

The South Shore Regional Library continues to struggle with funding issues. Without the implementation of the Library Funding Formula, SSRL is unable to carry out plans for the development of library services and is hard pressed to keep library collections current.

Western Counties

Western Counties and Annapolis Valley regional libraries began work on a three-year Smart Libraries project. The project is part of the Smart Communities program awarded to the Western Valley Development Authority by Industry Canada. In August 2001 the libraries contracted Paradise Consulting to design and develop the new websites. The official launch of the new sites is set for May 2002.

On March 11, WCRL received the first Louis Braille Certificate of Merit to be awarded in the province. The award was presented by Chris Judge from the CNIB in recognition of the library's "outstanding contribution toward the promotion, understanding and use of Braille in Nova Scotia."

An extended LibraryNet grant enabled the library to hire youth workers to assist in the design and development of the Isaiah W. Wilson web page. The page, launched on February 16, is an introduction to the life, times, and work of the Digby County historian.

In the first full year of operation, over 1,000 people attended 154 free computer courses given in the Gates Computer Lab. Many of the courses were at the introductory level, designed to give those with no previous computer experience the skills needed to use information technology and to go on to higher-level courses.

A popular Who wants to be a McMillionaire? game in the Summer Reading Program contributed to a 53% jump in juvenile circulation. These young readers are also wearing antennae in honour of the theme. Don't bug me...I'm reading!

A Community Access Program launch was held in Clark's Harbour on July 4. The Clark's Harbour Library is the main location for the CAP site in Clark's Harbour.

Participation in the Summer Reading Program soared to new heights with McDonald's Restaurant on side as a sponsor. The introduction of the Who Wants to be A McMillionaire? game this year saw juvenile circulation climb by 53 per cent.

Bessie Robart digs into her newly arrived bag of books from the Home Library Service, a lifeline to those who cannot come into the physical library.

Statistics by Library Region

	MEMBERSHIP			SERVICE POINTS			GOVERNANCE	
	Population (2001 Census)	Registered Members	As % of Population	Branch Libraries	Mobile Libraries	Other Sites	Member Councils	Trustees
Annapolis Valley	99,399	17,517	18%	11	2	2	11	13
Cape Breton	117,292	30,705	26%	13	2	1	2	9
Colchester-E. Hants	71,060	21,230	30%	4	1	0	4	9
Cumberland	32,605	9,527	29%	7	0	1	5	10
Eastern Counties	39,989	6,442	16%	7	0	13	7	9
Halifax	359,183	160,861	45%	14	2	3	1	11
Pictou-Antigonish	66,543	21,543	32%	7	0	6	8	10
South Shore	59,314	12,041	20%	3	2	1	6	12
Western Counties	62,622	15,673	25%	10	0	0	11	16
Totals	908,007	295,539	33%	76	9	27	55	99

	FUNDING				EXPENDITURES		
	Provincial	Municipal	Other	Total Income	Materials	Personnel	Other
Annapolis Valley	$1,211,000	$463,900	$260,205	$1,935,105	$218,345	$1,154,699	$523,451
Cape Breton	1,525,501	559,842	276,313	2,361,656	280,924	1,628,712	272,900
Colchester-E. Hants	845,000	309,400	226,684	1,381,084	160,675	974,128	215,164
Cumberland	408,200	149,501	115,449	673,150	71,891	441,890	124,114
Eastern Counties	589,099	189,500	119,623	898,222	87,099	544,857	235,651
Halifax	2,974,700	10,552,824	535,603	14,063,127	1,503,459	9,664,494	2,895,175
Pictou-Antigonish	824,400	307,975	187,429	1,319,804	116,600	887,749	312,887
South Shore	724,200	265,289	36,511	1,026,000	127,978	752,520	202,658
Western Counties	860,900	286,600	200,234	1,347,734	152,283	954,072	212,143
Totals	$9,963,000	$13,084,831	$1,958,051	$25,005,882	$2,719,254	$17,003,121	$4,994,143

Dick O'Brien of East Boston, Massachusetts, checks out his genealogical background at the Mulgrave Branch of Eastern Counties Regional Library.

	PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS				ANNUAL USE				
	Computers Available	Population per Computer	# of Searchers	Training Sessions	Library Visits	In-library Use	Programs Offered	Program Attendance	SRP * Participants
Annapolis Valley	56	1,775	96,100	1,357	216,528	35,074	2,521	28,004	1,694
Cape Breton	57	2,058	83,919	456	353,080	104,624	602	8,846	1,226
Colchester-E. Hants	38	1,870	59,280	102	215,050	202,904	644	10,152	794
Cumberland	26	1,254	17,746	374	121,524	26,156	585	3,775	430
Eastern Counties	30	1,333	29,536	1,799	124,085	46,646	182	2,326	481
Halifax	174	2,064	235,092	205	2,120,009	1,503,268	4,826	116,611	4,883
Pictou-Antigonish	45	1,479	50,000	1,178	235,092	99,788	377	6,239	1,093
South Shore	14	4,237	7,530	390	87,848	104,082	19	1,713	394
Western Counties	58	1,080	4,410	3,118	147,200	298,530	1,015	17,702	965
Totals	498	1,823	583,613	8,979	3,620,416	2,421,072	10,771	195,368	11,960

* Summer Reading Program;

	INFORMATION SERVICE			CIRCULATION			
	Reference Questions Answered	ILL Items Loaned	ILL Items Borrowed	Total	As % of NS Total	Per Capita	Per Member
Annapolis Valley	140,966	3,252	3,665	538,099	8%	5.4	30.7
Cape Breton	156,683	2,328	1,424	461,922	7%	3.9	15.0
Colchester-E. Hants	14,718	2,770	2,581	310,077	5%	4.4	14.6
Cumberland	17,853	1,156	1,417	135,851	2%	4.2	14.3
Eastern Counties	20,587	1,235	1,469	145,513	2%	3.6	22.6
Halifax	203,433	5,108	2,146	3,880,678	61%	10.8	24.1
Pictou-Antigonish	80,075	1,681	4,873	353,262	6%	5.3	16.4
South Shore	19,993	2,534	2,403	238,339	4%	4.0	19.8
Western Counties	31,109	1,466	3,531	268,373	4%	4.3	17.1
Totals	685,417	21,530	23,509	6,332,114	100%	7.0	21.4

Aurea Gillis makes a Library Links Community Stop at the Whycocomagh Development Commission Office as part of Eastern Counties' Mobile Rural Services.

	MATERIALS					PERSONNEL			
	Total Items	As % of NS Total	Per Capita	Expense Per Capita	% of Total Expense	Librarians (FTE)	Total (FTE)	As % of NS Total	% of Total Expense
Annapolis Valley	259,466	9.5%	2.6	$2.20	11.5%	9.0	31.2	7.2%	60.9%
Cape Breton	231,401	8.4%	2.0	$2.40	12.9%	9.0	54.5	12.6%	74.6%
Colchester-E. Hants	130,368	4.8%	1.8	$2.26	11.9%	4.3	31.0	7.2%	72.2%
Cumberland	73,020	2.7%	2.2	$2.20	11.3%	2.0	18.5	4.3%	69.3%
Eastern Counties	103,327	3.8%	2.6	$2.18	10.0%	3.0	19.6	4.5%	62.8%
Halifax	1,240,806	45.3%	3.5	$4.19	10.7%	42.7	192.9	44.7%	68.7%
Pictou-Antigonish	431,430	15.7%	6.5	$1.75	8.9%	3.0	33.4	7.7%	67.4%
South Shore	125,768	4.6%	2.1	$2.16	11.8%	3.0	18.1	4.2%	69.5%
Western Counties	144,513	5.3%	2.3	$2.43	11.5%	5.0	32.4	7.5%	72.4%
Totals	2,740,099	100.0%	3.0	$2.99	11.0%	80.9	431.6	100.0%	68.8%

Ten-Year Trends

	MEMBERSHIP			INFORMATION SERVICE		
	Population	Registered Members	As % of Population	Reference Questions Answered	Interlibrary Items Loaned	Loan Items Borrowed
1992–93	899,942	386,195	43%	534,591	19,749	20,736
1993–94	899,942	409,318	45%	569,467	21,077	24,551
1994–95	899,942	418,433	46%	591,784	23,660	20,571
1995–96	899,942	455,110	51%	689,850	22,904	19,872
1996–97	909,282	436,712	48%	545,603	26,671	25,216
1997–98	909,282	324,400	36%	676,285	26,000	26,524
1998–99	909,282	325,700	36%	767,936	24,422	26,423
1999–00	909,282	303,517	33%	763,530	26,413	26,846
2000–01	909,282	290,585	32%	833,050	24,140	24,340
2001–02	908,007	295,539	33%	685,417	23,509	21,530

	PUBLIC INTERNET ACCESS				ANNUAL USE			
	Computers Available	Population Per Computer	# of Searchers	Training Sessions	Library Visits	In-library Use	Program Attendance	SRP * Participants
1996–97	99	9,185	73,989	5,237	3,970,836	2,477,332	197,482	9,732
1997–98	195	4,663	152,409	18,778	3,499,962	1,931,332	184,598	9,246
1998–99	212	4,289	252,905	25,867	4,073,182	1,951,526	182,010	9,257
1999–00	304	2,991	289,088	42,506	3,504,076	2,237,535	171,062	10,232
2000–01	396	2,296	525,530	52,687	3,445,283	2,088,960	166,198	9,540
2001–02	498	1,823	583,613	8,979	3,620,416	2,421,072	195,368	11,960

Note: only began counting in 1996–97

* Summer Reading Program

A happy young reader at South Shore Regional Library

	CIRCULATION		MATERIALS		PERSONNEL	
	Total	Per Capita	Total Items	Per Capita	Librarians (FTE)	Total (FTE)
1992–93	6,061,133	6.7	1,978,023	2.2	83.0	501.0
1993–94	6,047,212	6.7	2,055,593	2.3	85.0	468.0
1994–95	6,111,346	6.8	1,930,684	2.1	85.0	460.0
1995–96	6,215,747	6.9	2,012,201	2.2	81.0	466.0
1996–97	6,260,778	6.9	2,202,421	2.4	87.8	182.1
1997–98	6,376,213	7.0	2,249,151	2.5	77.8	464.0
1998–99	6,266,942	6.9	2,295,518	2.5	77.8	478.9
1999–00	5,868,906	6.5	2,286,865	2.5	73.2	482.2
2000–01	5,755,134	6.3	2,384,618	2.6	87.9	490.6
2001–02	6,332,114	7.0	2,740,099	3.0	80.9	431.6

OPERATING FUNDING

	Provincial	Municipal	Other	Total	Funding Per Capita
1992–93	$7,357,884	$8,715,052	$918,211	$16,991,147	$18.88
1993–94	$7,560,431	$8,867,475	$714,031	$17,141,937	$19.05
1994–95	$7,428,300	$8,954,190	$781,971	$17,749,135	$19.72
1995–96	$7,889,185	$8,773,555	$1,424,012	$18,086,752	$20.10
1996–97	$7,950,087	$10,342,605	$1,099,668	$19,404,082	$21.34
1997–98	$8,225,512	$10,565,171	$1,392,536	$20,183,219	$22.20
1998–99	$8,984,777	$10,898,912	$1,280,622	$21,164,311	$23.28
1999–00	$9,578,698	$11,091,648	$1,560,030	$22,230,376	$24.45
2000–01	$9,863,003	$11,438,555	$1,988,236	$23,289,794	$25.61
2001–02	$9,963,000	$13,084,831	$1,958,051	$25,005,882	$27.54

EXPENDITURES

	Materials	Expense Per Capita	% of Total Expense	Personnel	% of Total Expense
1992–93	$2,134,731	$2.37	13%	$12,224,703	72%
1993–94	$2,132,538	$2.37	12%	$12,372,155	72%
1994–95	$2,149,845	$2.39	12%	$12,533,507	71%
1995–96	$2,281,672	$2.54	13%	$12,602,618	70%
1996–97	$2,534,437	$2.79	13%	$13,083,189	67%
1997–98	$2,405,299	$2.65	12%	$13,438,198	67%
1998–99	$2,603,316	$2.86	12%	$14,454,232	68%
1999–00	$2,465,294	$2.71	11%	$15,413,686	69%
2000–01	$2,447,196	$2.69	11%	$15,892,348	68%
2001–02	$2,719,254	$2.99	11%	$17,003,121	68%

Budge Wilson, author; Frances Newman, Chief Librarian; and Bev Fenton, Outreach Services Clerk; share a moment during the Spring Reading Festival at Cumberland Regional Library.

Provincial Library Statistics

NSPL NET OPERATING EXPENDITURES	2000–01	2001–02
Totals	$1,535,487	$1,461,177
Salaries & Benefits	1,031,482	920,575
Library materials	146,129	138,916
Other expenditures	755,640	708,367
Revenue/Recoveries	397,764	306,681
Salaries expenditure as % of total budget	67.18%	63.0%
Total Staff (full-time equivalent)	27.4	25.6

REGIONAL LIBRARY OPERATING GRANTS	2000–01	2001–02
	$9,863,000	$9,963,000

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY SERVICES	2000–01	2001–02
Reference questions answered	501	406
On-line searches	122	116
Items added to collection	262	385
Interlibrary loan locations searched	3,426	2,450
Interlibrary loan requests filled	455	124
Items catalogued and processed	31,760	32,050
Items circulated	253	267

Nova Scotia Provincial Library
Goals and Achievements 2001–02

Advise the Department of Education on any policy development affecting public libraries in Nova Scotia and interpret department and government policy for the public library sector.

Results
Advised on implications of not implementing the recommended funding formula for regional public libraries and the impact on library boards caused by delay in provincial appointments
Recommended that the Minister write to the RCMP supporting the secondment of John Kennedy to the Adopt a Library Literacy Program and to the Minister of Justice supporting the inclusion of regional libraries in the Volunteer Protection Act
Reviewed and improved cataloguing and processing turnaround

Administer the Provincial Library according to the Libraries Act and review all work-flow processes and services offered to ensure the provision of quality and cost-effective services to clients.

Results
Streamlined administration tasks and eliminated one position
Discussed sharing secretarial support with Learning Resources and Technology
Developed strategic directions for 2002–04 with managers and chief librarians
Examined staff workloads and new activities to ensure that all activities are appropriately staffed

Convene and provide secretariat services for a Regional Public Libraries Facilities Review Committee as recommended by the Funding Review Committee.

Result
The Department of Education decided not to appoint a Committee but to have staff prepare an inventory of facilities. A survey form was developed to collect data in 2002.

Investigate the use of an on-line table of contents service to professional literature for regional library staff to replace the paper service eliminated in 2000 and the cost of province-wide participation in commercial document delivery service.

Result
Tested commercial on-line table of contents service with less than satisfactory results. Very few services currently available; none delivers what is needed or is reasonably priced. Will monitor developments in field and conduct further tests as appropriate.

Waycobah Story Hour, Family Reading program, Eastern Counties Regional Library

Nova Scotia Provincial Library
Goals for 2002–04

Mission

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library will act as a champion and resource for public libraries, working with them to provide the best possible library service to all Nova Scotians.

Improve the visibility and promote the value of public libraries to the public, potential funding agencies, and all levels of government.

Ensure that regional public libraries have the tools required to provide easy access to and control of collections.

Assist regional public libraries in developing digital collections.

Continue to seek ways of improving the technological infrastructure.

Contribute to the provision of effective reference service in regional public libraries.

Support succession planning for regional library boards.

Assist in the development of regional library staff and board members.

Develop best practices in public library service delivery.

Seek potential initiatives and partnerships to expand public library services.

Revise and update Standards for Nova Scotia Regional Public Libraries to reflect changes in the library service provision environment.

Results

Completed standards revision, October 2001
Distributed new standards to boards and councils, February 2002

Investigate implications of purchase of DRA (system vendor) and initiate planning process for migration from MultiLIS integrated library system to the new generation software, TAOS.

Result

With the merger of DRA and Sirsi, DRA's TAOS software was discontinued. Sirsi's Unicorn software is to become standard. We are investigating the functionality of the new product. We are continuing to implement DRA's new web2 software, which has enhanced patron functionality. This software allows patrons to do things on their own that used to require staff assistance and to do things from home or office that used to require a trip to the library.

Develop new web presence for the Access to Nova Scotia Resources Initiative and expand participation beyond government libraries.

Results

Work on individual portal interfaces continuing for NcompasS members; all to be in use by summer 2002
Work on main NcompasS page under way; completion targeted for September 2002
Capital Health District libraries now reporting to the Government Libraries Consolidated Catalogue
Western Health District libraries to report by spring

Continue to develop partnerships on behalf of regional libraries to improve public access to information.

Results

New partnership formed with Alzheimer Society (see page 2)
CIBC to sponsor Summer Reading Program in 2002, contributing $10,000 with possible two-year extension
PEI partnered in 2001 Library Week and will partner in 2002 Summer Reading Program.

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Nova Scotia Provincial Library
Nova Scotia Regional Libraries
Annual Report
2001 / 2002